

SJI Update 07/12/2016

A meeting was held this morning at the Cumberland County Emergency Operations Center. Attendees included EPA, NJDEP, NJDOH, NJSP-OEM, Vineland Health Department, Vineland Fire Department and the Vineland City Attorney. The meeting was to discuss general conditions at the response operation, the structure of a Unified Command and upcoming operations at the facility.

EPA updated all attendees about the status of the removal of frozen product from the facility, the expected timeframe to complete the unloading/shipping process and the timeframe for the evacuation of ammonia from the system.

A formal Unified Command structure has been formed. Members of Unified Command include EPA, NJDEP, the Vineland Fire Department, the Vineland Health Department, the facility owner and the Vineland Office of Emergency Management.

EPA, NJDEP and Vineland officials met with the owner of the facility to discuss the continued removal of frozen product from the facility. EPA had previously offered the owner several options for assistance in removing the contents of the facility, however, the owner had refused. After the joint EPA, NJDEP, Vineland meeting with the owner, a plan was developed for EPA contractors to assist in the loading of trucks with product. That plan is currently being reviewed by EPA attorneys due to the current status of access to the facility.

Currently, 35 persons continue to be located from the residences closest to the facility. It is expected that the relocation will last 2 weeks.

RST continues 24 hour air monitoring. IMAAC continues to provide daily release projection updates.